

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for providing printer recognition and management of a print
2 job entity, comprising:
3 establishing a repository of attributes and status information associated with
4 each print job that passes through a printer system; and
5 providing an interface to a plurality of components to allow access to the
6 attributes and status information in the repository by the plurality of components.

1 2. An apparatus for providing printer recognition and management of a
2 print job entity, comprising:
3 a repository of attributes and status information associated with each print job
4 that passes through a printer system; and
5 an interface to a plurality of components, the interface providing access to the
6 attributes and status information in the repository by the plurality of components.

1 3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the interface comprises at least one
2 of a Web Page channel, a multiplexer to manage the routing of jobs to the print
3 engine and a spooler, a job control function interface, a pipeline interface, an
4 operations panel interface and a pull print interface.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the interface provides an ability for
2 components to process a job according to requirements of the component and
3 reports job attributes and processing status of the job for common access by other
4 components.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the interface provides access to
2 maintained job variable to the components.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the interface provides a component
2 access to common variables, the components presenting job attributes or status to
3 the interface.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the attributes are presented
2 according to requirements dictated by the interface

1 8. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the interface provides the ability for
2 components to create job entries, obtain and set job attributes, manipulate the state
3 and status of jobs in the system, and obtain job ordering information pertinent to the
4 calling component.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the repository provides a global view
2 of jobs within the printer, the global view includes an actively printing job, jobs in the
3 process of being spooled, jobs on the spool queue, and jobs on the pull print queue.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the interface accommodates either
2 implementation of port connection managers and pass job information from a port
3 connection manager to the repository.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the interface cancels jobs.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein a cancelled job comprises a current
2 job.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein a cancelled job comprises a job
2 having a selected attribute.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the a repository and interface are
2 provided by a job monitor, the job monitor further providing logical views to obtain a
3 next job to be processed by a component and to obtain a list of all jobs in the order
4 that they are processed.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the job monitor obtains a Job
2 identification, performs a query for attributes of a job, updates job attributes, cancels
3 jobs, provides logical views of a job, handles printer events, gets attributes of the
4 printer and sets printer attributes.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the attributes are updated through
2 the job monitor.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the job monitor provides the ability
2 for any component to set job attributes.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the job monitor uses job states to
2 control the flow of jobs.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the job monitor responds to a
2 component call, determines a next job to process, the component determining valid
3 states for a call.

1 20. An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium
2 readable by a computer, the medium tangibly embodying one or more programs of
3 instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for providing printer
4 recognition and management of a print job entity, the method comprising:
5 establishing a repository of attributes and status information associated with
6 each print job that passes through a printer system; and
7 providing an interface to a plurality of components to allow access to the
8 attributes and status information in the repository by the plurality of components.